# Capstone Industry Council Meeting

June 14, 2006



#### **Agenda**

#### 0800-0945 Information Sharing

OpeningSue Gardner

Technical Status Update
 Mark Olson

Operations Status Update
 Dan Stapleton

FAA JRC Planning Status Update
 Donna Whitlock

WAAS UpdateJoAnn Ford

Restoral of ADS-B Services
 Lari Belisle

Statewide Infrastructure Evaluations
 Sue Gardner

Alternatives for Retaining Transcribed
 Weather Broadcast Services in Alaska

Mike Borowski

> 0945-1000 Industry Feedback (Roundtable)

#### Opening:

- Status of FAA Response to AACC Letter
  - FAA Plan to Restore "radar like" Services
    - June 15<sup>th</sup>
      - Resume ATC separation and advisory services using ADS-B
      - Three GBTs Bethel, Aniak, and St. Mary's
    - July 15<sup>th</sup>
      - FAA to begin an operational validation of minimum separation standards between an ADS-B target and a radar target
      - Three GBTs Bethel, Aniak, and St. Mary's
    - August 15<sup>th</sup>
      - FAA to expand operational validation
      - Five GBTs Bethel, Aniak, St. Mary's, Dillingham and King Salmon
  - Letter to Airmen

#### Opening (continued)

- Changes in Capstone Office
- New Capstone FAQs
- FAA Administrator Vist in July
  - Howard Swancy
- Sen. Steven's hearings July 5th

#### **Technical Status Update**

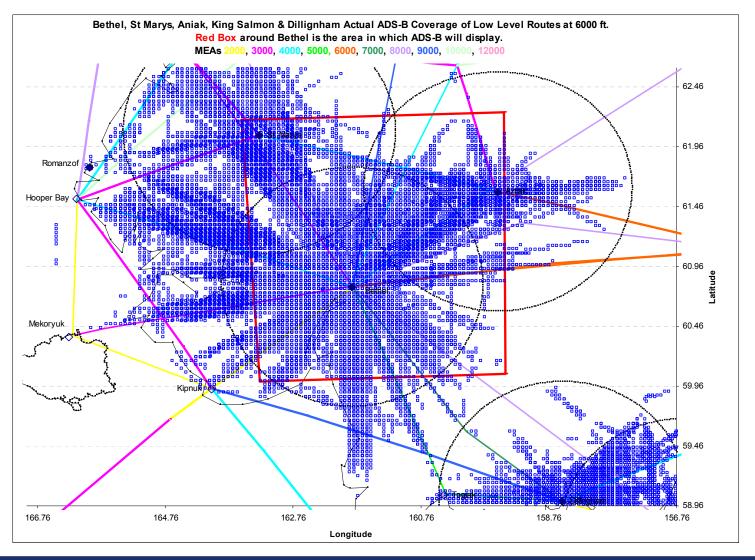
Mark Olson



#### **Recent Events**

Nothing new regarding Services within purview of the Capstone Technical team

#### **Phase I Coverage Box**



#### STATUS OF SERVICES ON JUNE 15 - Y-K

	ADS-B Surveillance	FIS-B	TIS-B	CRABS	VOLPE / Flight Explorer
Phase I: Y-K Delta					
Bethel	Х	Х	N/A	Х	Х
Aniak	Х	Х	N/A	N/A	Х
St. Mary's	Х	Х	N/A	N/A	Х
Dillingham	% O/S til 8/15	X	N/A	N/A	Х
King Salmon	% O/S til 8/15	Х	N/A	N/A	X
Unalakleet	# TBD	Х	N/A	N/A	Х
Sparrevohn	# TBD	Х	N/A	N/A	Х
Tatalina	# TBD	Х	N/A	N/A	X
Cape Romanzof	# TBD	Х	N/A	N/A	Х
Cape Newenham	# TBD	\$ O/S	N/A	\$ O/S	\$ O/S
Site Summit	# TDB	Х	Х	Х	N/A

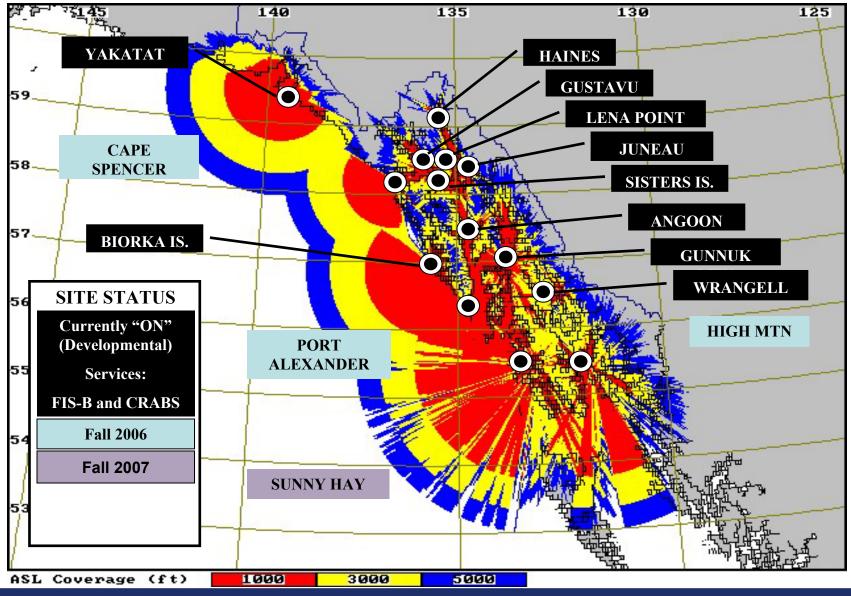
**X** = Available **N/A** = Not Available **#TBD** = Current date is unknown - awaiting ATO-E decision

**% O/S** = Out of Service. On 3/24/06, ADS-B surveillance terminated at the direction of the Vice President for En Route and Oceanic Services (ATO-E).

. \$ O/S = Out of Service. Cape Newenham - wind damage to satellite communications facility.



#### PHASE II GBT SITES





#### STATUS OF SERVICES

	ADS-B Surveillance	FIS-B	TIS-B	CRABS	VOLPE / Flight Explorer
Phase II: Southeast					
Juneau	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Yakutat	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Sisters Island	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Gustavus	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Lena Point	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Biorka	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Gunnuk	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Wrangel	Fall '06	Х	N/A	Х	Fall '06
Angoon	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Haines	Fall '06	Х	N/A	X	Fall '06
Sunny Hay	Fall '06	Fall '06	N/A	N/A	Fall '06
Cape Spencer	Fall '06	Fall '06	N/A	N/A	Fall '06
High Mountain	Fall '06	Fall '06	N/A	N/A	Fall '06
Port Alexander	Fall '07	Fall '07	N/A	N/A	Fall '07
Y = Available	-1	N/A = Not /			

X = Available

N/A = Not Available



#### **Operations Status Update**

Dan Stapleton

#### **Chelton 6.0B Software Upgrade**

**Status: 5/26/06** 

- IDU Memory Upgrades 15 Aircraft Remain
- Software certification Still Being Worked
  - Chelton advises all resources being applied to expedite
    - Still unable definitive estimate for completion
- Steve Thompson Latest Information

#### **Capstone SE Installations**

Status as of May 10, 2006

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Chelton: 4 In progress 3 Remaining Tot: 100
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Garmin F/W: 0 In progress 0 Remaining Tot: 39

Garmin Hel: 0 In progress 0 Remaining Tot: 19

GDL90 Ret: 1 In progress 0 Remaining

GDL-IDU: 4 In progress 3 Remaining

Helos: 9 carry-overs being worked (1 Coastal, 8 Temsco)

#### **Issues in Y-K Delta**

- •N715HE (Caravan) defaults to "1200"
  - Avionics evaluated by Garmin NTF
  - Continued Watch Item in Y-K

#### Remaining Transponder-Equipped Aircraft Needing Garmin 5.7 Software in Y-K Delta

•All transponder/UAT equipped aircraft operating in Y-K have received 5.7 software

Pilot training

#### **FAA JRC Planning Status**

Donna Whitlock

#### FAA JRC Planning Status Update

#### Final Investment Decision JRC Date:

August 24, 2006

- Business Case Providing the analytical and quantitative basis for investment decisions.
  - ✓ **Status**: Progress in on track for the statewide implementation business case that will be presented to the JRC for installation and follow-on maintenance funding for the ground infrastructure (GBTs, FIS-B, TIS-B, OFMS, Automated Weather, COMM, Approach/Departure, etc).
  - ✓ The business case will address cost, schedule, benefits and risk associated with the Capstone program.

#### **WAAS Update**

JoAnn Ford

#### **Restoral of ADS-B Services**

Lari Belisle

### **Capstone Statewide Infrastructure Evaluations**

Sue Gardner



#### Alternatives for Retaining Transcribed Weather Broadcast Services in Alaska After Non-Directional Beacon Divestment

Mike Borowski

June 14 2006

### Need to Transition to a New Navigation Infrastructure in Alaska

- A combination of Capstone (GBT and avionics) deployment, and satellite navigation, is enabling a reduction in dependence on ground-based navigation systems across the NAS
  - Better navigation accuracy and availability with the new technology
  - Significant reduction in the cost of operating,
     maintaining and replacing ground-based systems in a time of very tight FAA budgets

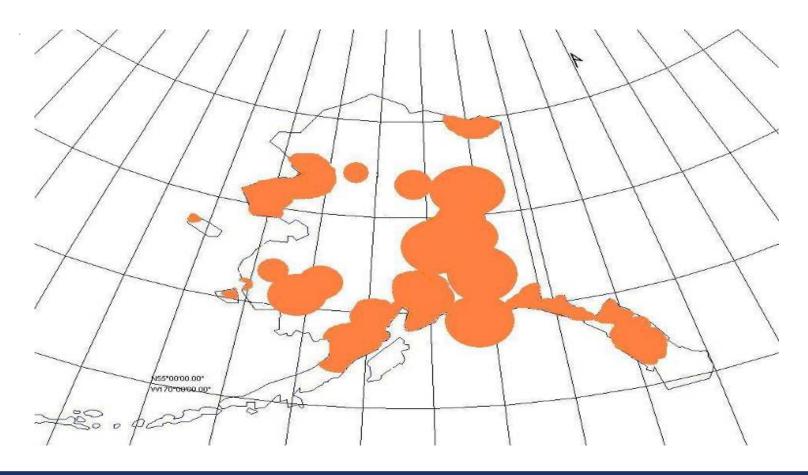
#### **TWEB Service in Alaska**

- Primarily delivered over the audio channel on Non-Directional Beacons (NDBs), and a few VORs
- Often the only en route forecasts available for routes between remote villages
- Alaska pilots and operators have stated a need to receive TWEB information prior to departure (i.e., aircraft on the ground)
- Propagation characteristics of the LF band where NDBs operate often make reception on the ground possible over distances of hundreds of miles from the stations

#### **Need to Maintain TWEB Service**

- TWEB services should not be removed until/unless alternative coverage is available
- The TWEB function now provided via NDB in Alaska cannot be replaced, with the same degree of coverage for aircraft on the ground, using any FAA infrastructure available under Capstone. Development of a TWEB alternative would require substantial systems engineering investment.
- Net cost savings from TWEB divestment would be \$4.8M, reduced further by the cost of an alternative
- Recommendation: Do not propose TWEB divestment in the pending Capstone Statewide Baseline

### Current Alaskan NDB Coverage for Aircraft on the Ground



# Alternative Communications Outlets for TWEB Delivery in Alaska

- The following alternatives were evaluated for their ability to replace NDB-based TWEB services:
  - Satellite (Voice) Telephone
  - Satellite Data Communications
  - Satellite Broadcast Radio
  - Commercial (in cockpit) Weather Providers
  - Cellular Telephone
  - FAA Air/Ground and FSS Communications Systems
  - Audio Channel on VORs
  - Capstone GBT Network
  - AM Broadcasting Stations

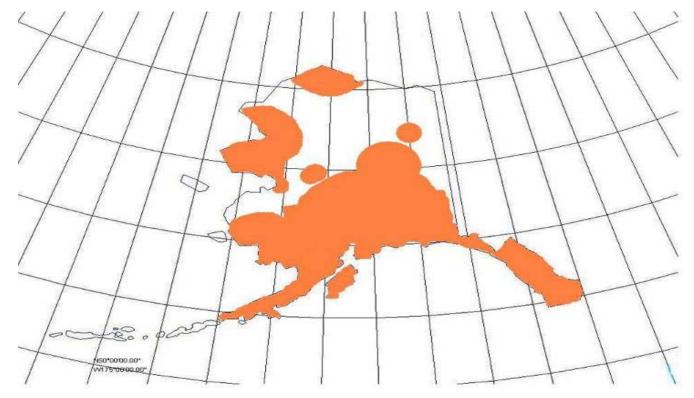
#### Results

- For all non-FAA communications outlets, connectivity to the TWEB data source(s) will have to be provided
- There is only one provider for satellite voice telephone (Iridium); cost may be an issue
- Satellite data services are in a state of flux and no avionics are available or planned
- Satellite Broadcast Radio coverage is (for all practical purposes) not available in Alaska
- The coverage area for commercial in-cockpit data providers lacks continuity in the areas of Alaska where TWEB is most needed
- Cellular telephone coverage is better than might be expected, given Alaska's population density, but can't do the job alone
- The *surface* coverage of FAA communications/navigation systems (A/G, FSS or GBT comm; VOR nav) is not adequate, by itself

#### Results (continued)

- The surface coverage of AM Broadcasting stations in Alaska is better than for the current NDB network; it is the <u>only option that</u> <u>provides equivalent surface-coverage service</u>
  - ADF receivers can tune over the AM broadcast band, so avionics is not an issue
  - Like all non-FAA networks, however, a means will have to be found to get the TWEB data to the AM stations – ANICS is likely the best method
  - Agreement must be reached with broadcasters to allot time
- The coverage that is available from FAA systems, and from satellite and cellular telephone should be included in a composite solution, where the combination of coverage and need is cost-effective
  - Cellular telephones will require a special waiver from both FAA and FCC for use while airborne, even at low altitude; should not be an issue in Alaska, but has to be dealt with
  - Telephone numbers need to be set up for TWEB like they are for ASOS/AWOS/ATIS

# Results (concluded) AM Broadcasting Station Coverage on the Surface in Alaska



# Potential Future Roadmap for TWEB Replacement (If and when a decision is made to divest TWEB)

- Develop telephone numbers for the TWEB services similar to AWOS, ASOS and ATIS
- Take action on the special waiver from both FAA and FCC for use of cell phones to obtain TWEB services while airborne
- Confirm requirement for TWEB on the surface with Alaska pilots and operators
  - Recommend getting a written "resolution" from appropriate group(s) (Industry Council, Capstone Coalition, etc.)

### Potential Future Roadmap for TWEB Replacement (continued)

- Make decision regarding which communications outlet(s) will be implemented and on what schedule
  - Define decision metrics (coverage, cost/benefit, etc.)
  - Coordinate implementation schedule with NDB divestment plan
  - Analyze budget issues; get budget wedge defined
  - Coordinate with user community

### Potential Future Roadmap for TWEB Replacement (concluded)

- Then, for each selected communications outlet:
  - Meet with appropriate company officials (cellphone, broadcaster, etc.) to verify their ability/commitment to support TWEB on their system
  - Refine coverage map and format it for ease of use
  - Determine method for connection to TWEB data source, and costs for doing so
  - Determine other costs, including both initial setup and O&M
    - FAA AF involvement?
  - Develop procedures for publishing access to TWEB information (frequencies, times, phone numbers, etc.), including the creation of appropriate entries/charts in the Alaska Supplement A/FD



#### **Backup/Detail Slides**



#### **Summary of Findings (1)**

Table 1. TWEB Data Sources and Technical Issues

Candidate Source of TWEB Broadcasts	Connected to TWEB Data Source at FAA?	Area Coverage Rating (1=Best, 10=Worst)	Avionics Available ?	Relative Cost of Service (1=Lowest, 10=Highest)	Remarks
Satellite (Voice) Telephone	No	1	Note 1	3	Only one vendor
Satellite Data Service	No	1	Note 2	Unknow n	Costs varying widely as competition sorts out
Satellite Broadcast	No	Note 3	Note 4	N/A	Unavailable in Alaska
Radio Commercial Weather Providers (In Cockpit)	No	Note 5	Yes	3	Wide variation in area coverage and required avionics
Cellular Telephone	No	3	Note 6	2	May need approval to operate at low altitudes after departure

#### **Summary of Findings (2)**

Table 1. TWEB Data Sources and Technical Issues

Candidate Source of TWEB Broadcasts	Connected to TWEB Data Source at FAA?	Area Coverage Rating (1=Best, 10=Worst)	Avionics Available ?	Relative Cost of Service (1=Lowest, 10=Highest)	Remarks
FAA VHF Communications (ATC/FSS)	Yes	8	Yes	1	Good coverage only at airports where RCO or RCAG is present
VOR Audio Channel	Yes	8	Yes	1	Good coverage only at locations near a VOR
GBT Network	Yes	5	Yes	1	Need to be Capstone equipped, or at least have a GDL-90
AM Broadcast Stations	No	1	Yes	1	Lowest cost, best coverage single- source alternative

## Summary of Findings (3) [Notes to Table 1]

Note 1. Handsets are already used in aircraft in Alaska, but are not "avionics," per se

Note 2. No known generally available avionics, but AirCell does provide data services to Corporate Aviation, although it is a *terrestrial* system that uses cellular technology

Note 3. Very limited and unpredictable coverage in Alaska

Note 4. Receivers for use in cars exist and could be used in aircraft in the Lower 48, perhaps with some special approvals

Note 5. Coverage area varies widely among providers

Note 6. Special authority will likely be needed from both FAA and FCC to permit use of cellular phones except where the aircraft is on the ground

### Notes on AM Station Participation

- The FAA Rules (CFR 47, Part 73) contain requirements for broadcasters to participate in "public service" information dissemination activities as a condition of their license
- Although the FCC's enforcement of these provisions has weakened over the years, it is still a carrot to use with the AM station owners
  - Additional benefit to them is that they can "advertise" that they are the TWEB source for their area, which will doubtless increase their audience

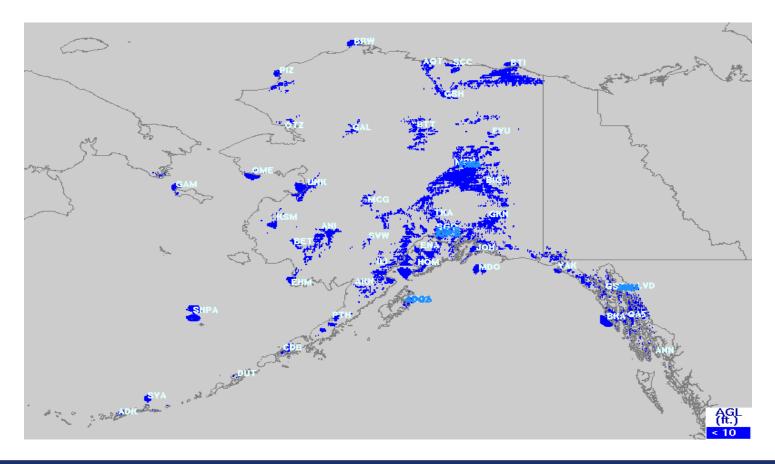
### **Evaluation of FM Broadcasting Stations**

- FM Broadcasting stations are prevalent in Alaska
  - But those in remote areas are "low power" stations
  - No avionics are available
  - Use of portable FM receivers in aircraft is prohibited by FAA because of danger of interference with on-board navigation systems (VOR and ILS/LOC)
  - Not considered a viable alternative

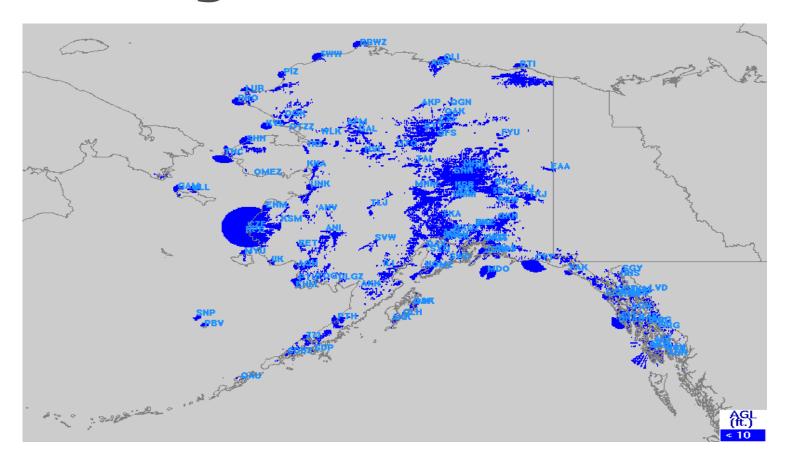
#### Backup - Cellular (ACS) Coverage



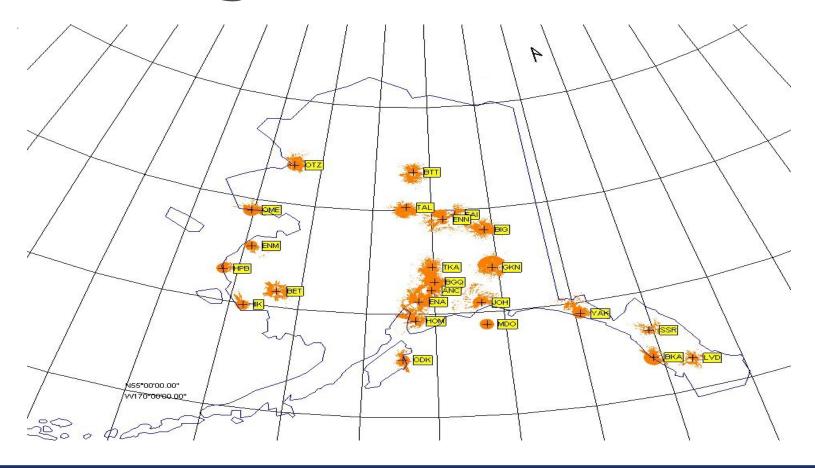
#### Backup: FAA RCAG Coverage on the Surface



### Backup: FAA FSS RCO Coverage on the Surface



## Backup: FAA VOR Coverage on the Surface



# Backup: FAA/Capstone GBT Coverage on the Surface

